

FROM ROMER SHOALS AMERICA'S NEW GUN SHOT WOULD REACH FIFTY-NINTH STREET, GERMANY'S ONLY CEDAR.

AMERICA'S NEW GUN BREAKS RECORD

From Romer Shoals Its Shot Reaches Fifty-ninth Street.

A SIXTEEN-MILE RANGE.

Germany's Feat on the Meppen Range Is Three and a Half Miles Shorter.

Washington, Oct. 23.—The ordnance officials of the War Department have calculated that a shot fired from the new 16-inch gun to be mounted on Romer Shoals, New York harbor, would reach as far as Fifty-ninth street. That makes the gun's range over sixteen miles.

The famous "Jubilee" English shot, which attained a range at Shoeburyness, England, of twelve statute miles, has been beaten by a Krupp gun, on the Meppen range, in Germany.

The report of this experiment made to the War Department says that the German gun attained a range of twelve and a half miles. This is the world's record for long-distance shooting. If the gun had been fired from Romer Shoals in the direction of New York City, the shot would have reached the Equitable Building, on Broadway.

This record was made, according to the official figures, by a 24 centimeter (9.45 inches) Krupp breech-loading rifle. The length of the gun was 35½ feet over all. The shot weighed practically 474 pounds. The weight of the firing charge of powder was 253½ pounds. The initial velocity of the projectile was 2,100 feet per second, or an equivalent striking power of some 14,483 tons. The great range was obtained by an angle of elevation of 4½ degrees.

During the flight of the shell a height was reached above the point of firing of 21,456 feet, from the time of firing until the summit of the shell was reached, twenty seconds elapsed. The trajectory has been plotted by the German ordnance officials and has been represented by them in a diagram beside that of the Mont Blanc range of mountains. The trajectory shows how much higher the shell would have passed over the summit of Mont Blanc if the shot had been fired from the position at Pre St. Didier toward Chamounix with an elevation of 4½ degrees.

As an instance of how accurately ordnance experts of the present day can plot the trajectory of a shell when the data are certain, it is said in American artillery circles that months prior to the firing by the English of their famous "Jubilee" shot, the ordnance experts had estimated the range of the shot to be within a few feet of the actual range which was obtained.

The data were sent out from Woolwich, the artillery headquarters of the British service, to the well-known experts in foreign services. The officer who was asked to make the estimate was Captain Ingalls, of the First Regiment of Artillery. He is regarded as one of the country's most brilliant artillerymen, and his works are text books at West Point and at the Fort Monroe Artillery School.

The data sent to the representatives of the other recognized armies of the world. The data gave the calibre and weight of the projectile, the kind and weight of charge, the angle of elevation, the direction of the shot, and finally the atmospheric conditions which had prevailed at Shoeburyness for ten years.

The Woolwich authorities requested the answers to be sent under seal prior to the day of firing. The communications were not to be opened until after the shot was made. Ingalls worked out the problem from the data.

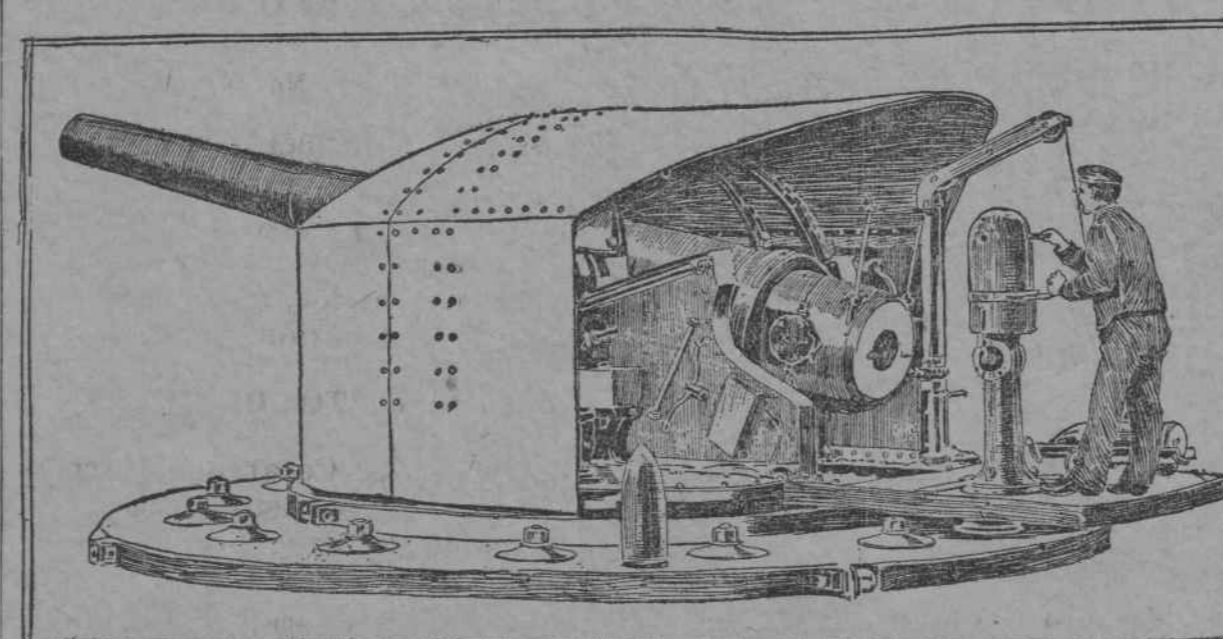
The "Jubilee" shot was fired from a 9.2-inch Woolwich gun. The calibre was a trifle smaller than that of the German gun. The "Jubilee" shot reached a distance from the firing point of twelve miles. At one time in its flight the shot was over three miles high.

When the range attained had been accurately measured, the British artillerymen opened the foreign communications. Some of the calculations placed the fall of the shot nearly two miles short of that distance. The officer whose estimate was secured first, was an Italian artilleryman. His estimate placed the fall of the shot nearly two miles in rear of the actual striking point. The officer who ranked first was Captain Ingalls.

Ingalls' calculations had plotted the shot only 150 yards in rear of the striking point. This accuracy astounded the British artillerymen. Ingalls noted the shot practically in the very hole where it fell. Ingalls has since been promoted to the rank of Major in the artillery arm.

Largest Dog on Record.

Meyersdale claims to have the largest dog on record. It is an English mastiff, nine months old and measures in length 7 feet 8 inches; girth, 35 inches; height, 34 inches, and neck 27 inches. The dog is the property of John W. Guthrie, of Meyersdale, Pa.



Germany's Gun Which Made the Long Range Record, Twelve and a Half Miles.

TOMBSTONE TELLS A LIE.

The Law Prevented Martin Hogan from Having His Life's Wish Granted in Death.

Auburn, N. Y., Oct. 23.—"Here lies the body of Martin Hogan," reads an inscription on a curious old tomb in the Catholic cemetery in State street. Through a hole near the bars of the shaft one may view the interior, which contains a heavy, worn-out casket—empty, except for a grave-digger's spade and a collection of old whiskey bottles. The body of Martin Hogan is not visible, nor any part of his remains. Instead, there is a very humble grave in another part of the old cemetery.

Martin Hogan was the first instructor of the Catholic children of Auburn, long before the parochial schools were introduced. He was prominent in his church and in his profession, and as he grew old the desire for a magnificent and a splendid tomb became his great passion. The last years of his life were spent in preparations for this end. He visited the marble dealers in the large cities, but could find nothing to suit his purpose, so he had constructed a shaft of marble, covered with sheet iron and finished in white. Heavy marble slabs were set in each side, and one of them opened into a compartment large enough to hold a coffin. Hogan had placed in readiness for his casket. His name was inscribed on every side of the tomb, and that opening into his compartment bore the legend quoted at the beginning. Martin took great pride in his arrangements, planting rose trees and flowering bushes all about the monument. He spent hours at the place, and his mind was satisfied with the contemplation of his last resting place.

When the old school master died the parish made a vigorous protest against placing his body in the tomb, because it was above ground, and, to the great disappointment of his family, his remains were buried under six feet of earth in another part of the graveyard and the old tomb, with its mouldering coffin and pathetically ironical inscription, remains as Hogan left it fifty years ago, serving only as a tool house for the workmen.

YOUTH IN PARIS JAILS.
Children Are Well Cared For and Treated with the Consideration Due to Their Years.

While imprisoned in Holloway Jail, in consequence of his share in the Jameson raid, the Hon. Robert White was grieved at the treatment accorded to young prisoners. It seemed that even in opening the door to the prison, the children were subjected to much the same treatment as older and proved criminals; shut up in cells in solitude, and allowed out only for a brief space of formal exercise daily.

On regaining his freedom Mr. White took occasion to inquire how children were treated in the women's prison. He finds that every consideration is shown for their possible innocence, and that they are carefully guarded from contact with the criminals of mature years. The first inquiries take place, not before an open court, but in presence only of a judge and policemen, and the inquiry is carried on in a kindly and familiar tone, which elicits truth without frightening the accused.

Boy prisoners are kept in a prison by themselves; girls in a wing entirely apart from the seniors. In the women's prison, to the age of twelve they occupy cells with doors open, that the terror which solitude causes in young children may not afflict them, though a warder patrols the corridor to prevent communication. Even when they are of an age which makes the authorities consider it advisable to lock them in, the cells are cheerful and dry, and, besides receiving visits and instruction from a schoolmaster, they are given work to do of a simple yet interesting nature.

It certainly seems, says the Hospital, as if, in the case of children not yet convicted of crime, it is cruel to treat them as if they were proved guilty, as Mr. White seems to think is the case; and education and the interest of learning some kind of work will do much to counteract the evil effects of solitude. But, perhaps these effects are less serious than Mr. White imagines. He admits that the solving he heard of right in the cells at Holloway was often a ruse on the part of the prisoners. (The Standard.)

THIS GAMBLER HAD PLENTY OF NERVE

Sporting Men Tell Stories of the Life of "California George" Weyman.

SHOT, BUT DIDN'T WEAKEN.

Pat Sheedy Tells of an Encounter with Five Queens and General Jeff Thompson.

A number of sporting men, including Pat Sheedy, Dink Davis, "Reddy" Bowman and others almost equally well known, were seated in a Broadway cafe the other evening in a somewhat reminiscent mood. They were discussing the money made by John P. Quinn, who styles himself "the reformed gambler," and is making money out of his reformation, by giving exhibitions in which he claims to expose how old-time gamblers deceived their victims.

"There is more money in reformation nowadays than there is in straight-away gambling," remarked Sheedy. "Look at Mayor Strong's administration, and see some of the men who draw big salaries for doing nothing under reform."

"That's so," responded Hugh Watson, "and it reminds me of the time that 'California George' Weyman took it into his head to reform."

"How was that?" some one inquired.

"Well," responded Watson, "it came about in this way. George had a faro and poker layout on Canal street, as you all remember, but he used to go in more for poker than for the other. One night he sat in a game with Bill Gould, Tom's brother, and so help me, as he told 'The Dead Man's Hand' twice within ten minutes. That was enough for George. He got up from the table looking mighty white, and left the room, and none of us saw anything of him for two or three days. Then he came back, having recovered his nerve, and it so happened that that very night he got into another poker game, and again Bill Gould was in it. In a jock pot amounting to something over \$500 George held jacks full on lines again, winning the pot from Bill Gould, who held tens full on lines. George had bluffed his hand through, and had not looked at it until the time when he saw 'The Dead Man's Hand' in his own hand. He was as chalk, and without drawing in the chips left the place. The very next day he had stabbed Bill to death."

George Stood Pat.
"But what had this to do with his reformation?" asked Reddy Bowman.

"Why," answered Watson, "he told me when he was in the Tombs awaiting trial that if he was acquitted he would reform. He was convicted of manslaughter, however, and when he got out of Sing Sing I suppose he never gave the matter of reformation another thought."

"That's all right," remarked Pat Sheedy, "but poor George was a good fellow, and I think it was a shame that his old-time friends should have let the old fellow kick himself up in Central Park a few weeks ago when he was in want. I remember an incident in his career that I guess few people ever knew, and it showed that George had courage, the same as he exhibited when he blew up the Confederate ram Louisiana rather than let it fall into the hands of the Yankees. George was playing cards for a living on one of the Mississippi River boats just after the war, and old General Jeff Thompson, of Saint Joe, was in the game. Old General Jeff was a fire eater. Mark Twain speaks of him as 'Roaring Jeff' as the only man of the Missouri who could drink

whiskey from a demijohn with one hand and never spill a drop. I've forgotten the details of this particular incident, although Ted Embler was telling me not more than three or four years ago, but as near as I remember there was a big pot that had crawled somewhere up into the thousands, and all the boys had dropped out but George and General Jeff.

"I don't know just what led up to it, but the call George had for quins and Jeff four jacks and a queen. George hadn't dealt that hand, but things certainly looked queer, and the General, being a fire-eater, drew his gun and pointed it at George. The General backed over to the wall, where he had the drop on all of the party, and then, still pointing his revolver at George, said:

"Hand over that money or I'll fire."

"I won that pot on the level," responded George, "and I'll not give you the money."

"Bang!" went the General's gun, and a bullet went into George's shoulder. Again the General asked for the money; again George refused, and again the revolver spoke. Four times the demand was made, and four times the General fired, but George, although wounded in two places, never weakened. By that time some one had sneaked up beside the old General and knocked his revolver from him. I don't know who got the pot, but I think George deserved it. Not every man will stick up for a thousand dollars or so when another man is blazing away at him."

"George had lots of nerve, but he sort of lost it all when his little girl died. She wasn't such a little girl; she was the age you are now, and she was something like that. But George worshipped her, and when she died out in Chicago he weakened, and gave up the pot. I've seen him bluffed by little consumptive chaps that couldn't have reached his elbow."

A proposition was made the next subscription for the erection of a monument to a stone over his grave, and Watson said that he would go around among California gamblers and see what could be done. "Therefore it is likely that the old man, who died by his own hand, bereft what it is in the Indian Forest Department, predicts that the rubber forests of Burma will be entirely exhausted within the next ten years. If the present methods of reckless and immature tapping of the trees are continued, and that year by year the output will decrease until nothing is left. Of course, this is an old complaint with respect, also, to the West African and other forests, and the remedy would seem to be that the virgin rubber should be collected under the supervision of foremen who have received the requisite training."

RUBBER'S RECORD PRICE.

The Supply Never Seems to Equal the Demand, Though Vast Forests Are Still Untapped.

Raw rubber is one of the very few commodities the supply of which does not appear to fully overtake the demand; and this is particularly true of the finer varieties, such as the prized Para. The growing use of which has sent up the price of rubber to a point where it is now about \$1.50 per pound. Continued attention is being given to the scientific opening up of new forests in the Indian Forest Department, and the method of bringing virgin rubber from the upper reaches of the Orinoco to Trinidad, instead of receiving it via long overland and Amazonian River journeys to the city of Para for shipment.

Some attention is also being given to the far Eastern sources of supply, as a correspondent who is in the Indian Forest Department, predicts that the rubber forests of Burma will be entirely exhausted within the next ten years. If the present methods of reckless and immature tapping of the trees are continued, and that year by year the output will decrease until nothing is left. Of course, this is an old complaint with respect, also, to the West African and other forests, and the remedy would seem to be that the virgin rubber should be collected under the supervision of foremen who have received the requisite training.

It must be admitted, too, that as time goes on some of the plantation companies which have been formed in recent years should add considerably to the visible supply, but there appears still to be room for more if properly managed companies of the kind. When a real "slump" comes in the "craze" it is very probable that quite as much rubber will be required for the tires of motors and other vehicles as is now used for bicycles. To say nothing of the growing use of the article for varied industries.

It is pointed out that there are big rubber forests in Tibet and mid-China which are as yet comparatively unexploited, and that while private individuals cannot, as a rule, accomplish much in their development beyond the "prospecting" stage, there is yet ample room for work on the part of the State or public companies. (The Standard.)

DIGGING UP TEMPLES.

Explorations of the Palatine Hill Result in Many Interesting Discoveries.

The Palatine may really be considered the Holy Hill of the Eternal City. Augustus chose it as the residence of the Emperors, wishing to live on the very spot where the house of Romulus was religiously preserved. The Palatine, covered with such a complexity of monuments, which contain the whole story of Rome from her birth to the fall of the Empire, has been comparatively little excavated. The position of several important edifices, such as the Temple of Apollo, has never been exactly fixed. This hill, with its rich memories, offers much more of an opening to the ardent archaeologist than does the Acropolis at Athens, which has been exhaustively explored.

The administrators of the excavations have little by little endeavored to fulfill their programme of the complete excavation of the Palatine, but have been retarded by serious financial difficulties and the fact that even yet much of the land belongs to private individuals.

Professor Baccelli, devoting himself since 1882 to that part of the Roman Forum just under the Palatine, brought to light the now well known quarters of the Vestal Virgins, and began what has ended in a complete view of the Via Nova, but unfortunately the church of St. Maria Liberatrice, built out of the Temple of Vesta, interferes with the complete unearthing of the Forum. In 1893 the Stadio Palatino was completely uncovered, while many buildings in the Via del Cerchio were demolished, as they so much obstructed the view. Last year the area about the House of Livia was taken in hand, and a large circular edifice found, cut off at one end by a wall, thus clearly showing the primitive construction of houses of the great in the eighth century B. C.

It has been much desired to liberate all that part of the famous hill which overlooks the Via Triumphalis, as there were the stupendous constructions of Septimius Severus, while this has been the part most neglected hitherto. It was covered with vineyards and rubbish, which are now removed. This area comprehends wide carriage ways conducting by a gentle slope to the ruins, near the monastery of St. Bonaventura, where the whole Palatine Stadium lies at one's feet. (The Pall Mall Gazette.)

STORMY GULF OF MEXICO.

Is a Great Scallop, and Hurricanes Seem to Gravitate to It.

Naturally.

The Gulf of Mexico is a water of storms, not frequent, but fearfully violent. It is, in effect, an immense scallop cut from the land, and hurricanes seem to gravitate to it naturally. They are born in the Gulf of Mexico, and strike the West Indies and not infrequently leave those islands at a tangent just as a ball thrown at an obtuse angle against a wall slides along it for a little space and again seeks vacancy. These erratic forces of the air strike the coast of Mexico or the coast of Texas, according to their angle, and death is in their track. The things called "tidal waves" in that section are not really tidal waves. They are not caused by an upheaval. They are merely local in effect. They are not vast walls of water weight over the face of the sea, but they are waters backed up against a low coast by wind pressure until they overflow. In many instances the submergence is gradual and ample opportunity for escape is given. Other times the violence of the air makes them sudden, and people are drowned. (Chicago Times-Herald.)

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